

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

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SUBJECT: STATEMENT OF U.S. POLICY TOWARD WESTERN EUROPEAN
COMMUNIST PARTIES

REF: TEHRAN 2722

FOLLOWING EXCERPT FROM SECRETARY'S MARCH 11 SPEECH TO BOSTON
WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL IS MOST RECENT STATEMENT OF U.S.

POLICY: QUOTE

OUR TIES WITH THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES ARE THEREFORE
NOT ALLIANCES OF CONVENIENCE BUT A UNION OF PRINCIPLE IN
DEFENSE OF VALUES AND A WAY OF LIFE.

IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT WE MUST BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE
POSSIBILITY OF COMMUNIST PARTIES COMING TO POWER - OR SHAR-
ING IN POWER - IN GOVERNMENTS IN NATO COUNTRIES. ULTIMATE-
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LY, THE DECISION MUST, OF COURSE, BE MADE BY THE VOTERS OF

THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED. BUT NO ONE SHOULD EXPECT THAT THIS QUESTION IS NOT OF CONCERN OF THIS GOVERNMENT, WHETHER SOME OF THE COMMUNIST PARTIES IN WESTERN EUROPE ARE IN FACT IN-DEPENDENT OF MOSCOW CANNOT BE DETERMINED WHEN THEIR ELECTORAL SELF-INTEREST SO OVERWHELMINGLY COINCIDES WITH THEIR CLAIMS. THEIR INTERNAL PROCEDURES - THEIR LENINIST PRINCI-

PLES AND DOGMAS - REMAIN THE ANTITHESIS OF DEMOCRATIC PARTIES. AND WERE THEY TO GAIN POWER THEY WOULD DO SO AFTER HAVING ADVOCATED FOR DECADES PROGRAMS AND VALUES DETRIMENTAL TO OUR TRADITIONAL TIES. BY THAT RECORD, THEY WOULD INEVITABLY GIVE LOW PRIORITY TO SECURITY AND WESTERN DEFENSE EFFORTS, WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL NOT ONLY TO EUROPE'S FREEDOM BUT TO MAINTAINING THE WORLD BALANCE OF POWER. THEY WOULD BE TEMPTED TO ORIENT THEIR ECONOMIES TO A MUCH GREATER EXTENT TOWARD THE EAST. WE WOULD HAVE TO EXPECT THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS IN WHICH COMMUNISTS PLAY A DOMINANT ROLE WOULD, AT BEST, STEER THEIR COUNTRIES' POLICIES TOWARD THE POSITIONS OF THE NON-ALIGNED. THE POLITICAL SOLIDARITY AND COLLECTIVE DEFENSE OF THE WEST, AND THUS NATO, WOULD BE INEVITABLY WEAKENED, IF NOT UNDER-MINED. AND IN THIS COUNTRY, THE COMMITMENT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF POWER IN EUROPE, JUSTIFIED THOUGH IT MIGHT BE ON PRAGMATIC, GEOPOLITICAL GROUNDS, WOULD LACK THE MORAL BASE ON WHICH IT HAS STOOD FOR THIRTY YEARS.

WE CONSIDER THE UNITY OF THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES CRUCIAL TO ALL WE DO IN THE WORLD. FOR THIS REASON WE HAVE SOUGHT TO EXPAND OUR COOPERATION TO AREAS BEYOND OUR MUTUAL DEFENSE - IN IMPROVED POLITICAL CONSULTATION; IN COORDINATING OUR APPROACHES TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EAST; IN REINFORCING OUR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIC POLICIES; IN DEVELOPING A COMMON ENERGY POLICY; AND IN FASHIONING COMMON APPROACHES FOR THE INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT DIALOGUE WITH THE DEVELOPING NATIONS. WE HAVE MADE REMARKABLE PROGRESS IN ALL THESE AREAS. WE ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINUE. OUR FOREIGN POLICY HAS NO HIGHER PRIORITY. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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